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CASSETTE NO. 78G455 FRAME NO. [illegible]

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

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INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS [illegible]
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RULPAFA/24COMPW/IN HOWARD AFB CZ
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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ [redacted]
SUBJECT: THIS IS (b)(3):10 USC 424
1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. TITLE: (U) OTHER - MILITARY GOVERNMENT TIGHTENS CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 7712-7804
6. DATE OF REPORT: 780407
7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: [illegible] BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
8. REFERENCES: (b)(3):10 USC 424
(b)(3):10 USC 424
9. ASSESSMENT: SOURCE: [redacted] INFO
10. ORIGINATOR: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
11. REQUEST EVALUATION: N/A
12. PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424
13. APPROVING AUTHORITY: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

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Authority: EO 13526
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Date: *Oct 19, 2018*

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CASSETTE NO. 78G455 FRAME NO. 1376 RELAY LEVEL MESSAGE

(b)(3):10 USC 424

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14. SOURCE: VARIOUS

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PAGE 2 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 60983
15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIRC: NO
16. SUMMARY: (U) THIS IR FORWARDS INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE SECURITY FORCE OPERATIONS.
22. DETAILS: 1. (U) THERE ARE INCREASING INDICATIONS THAT THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS TIGHTENING UP CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES. ON 780407 A NUMBER OF BUENOS AIRES NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE BASED ON A FEDERAL POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNIQUE RELEASED ON 780406. THE POLICE ADVISED THE CITIZENS OF BUENOS AIRES THAT ALL FEDERAL POLICEMEN ARE OBLIGED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WHEN DEALING WITH THE PUBLIC. PHOTOGRAPHS AND DESCRIPTIONS OF POLICE DOCUMENTS WERE PUBLISHED BY THE NEWS MEDIA. THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WARNED THAT IMPOSTERS WERE POSING AS POLICEMEN AND CAUTIONED THE PUBLIC TO DEMAND IDENTIFICATION. THE DEPARTMENT REMINDED THE POPULATION THAT POLICE PERSONNEL ARE NOT EMPOWERED TO ENTER HOMES WITHOUT HAVING PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES. ONCE AN OFFICIAL RAID IS ENDED, AN INVENTORY DOCUMENT LISTING ALL CONFISCATED BELONGINGS MUST BE SIGNED AND WITNESSED BY PERSONNEL CARRYING OUT THE RAID.
2. (U) IN THE LAST FOUR MONTHS AN INCREASING NUMBER OF NEWS ITEMS HAVE APPEARED INDICATING THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS CRACKING DOWN N WAYWARD POLICEMEN. EXAMPLES FOLLOW: ON 771211, FOUR POLICEMEN IN TUCUMAN WERE ARRESTED FOR ROBBERY. ON THE SAME DATE IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT EIGHT POLICEMEN IN SANTA FE WOULD BE PROSECUTED FOR TERRORIZING PEOPLE ON A PUBLIC BEACH. ON 771229, THREE FEDERAL POLICEMEN IN BUENOS AIRES WERE ARRESTED FOR MURDER. ON 780326, THE FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF BG EDUARDO OJEDA ANNOUNCED THAT 334 POLICEMEN WERE DISMISSED FROM THE FORCE IN 1977. HE ADDED THAT THE CASHIERED OFFICERS REPRESENT LESS THAN 1 PERCENT OF THE FORCE. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT HE WOULD NOT TOLERATE BAD BEHAVIOR BY ANY MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL POLICE DEPARTMENT. FINALLY ON 780405, IT WAS REPORTED THAT 4 POLICE OFFICERS

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(INCLUDING TWO PRECINCT CHIEFS) OF THE CORDOBA PROVINCIAL POLICE WERE ARRESTED FOR CORRUPTION. COMMENT: (C) MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE LONG ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GRAFT, CORRUPTION AND MISBEHAVIOR BY POLICE PERSONNEL WAS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN ARGENTINA. THEY STATED THAT

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THE DISREPUTABLE STATE OF THE POLICE FORCES, BOTH FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL, WAS DUE TO POLITICIZATION BY FORMER GOVERNMENTS. YET, THEY DID VERY LITTLE DURING THE INITIAL PHASES OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO CORRECT THIS PROBLEM, CLAIMING THAT THE INSTITUTION HAD TO BE KEPT IN TACT IN ORDER TO COMBAT SUBVERSION. THIS REPORT, ALONG WITH EARLIER ONES (SEE REF) SUGGESTS THAT THE PENDULUM IS BEGINNING TO SWING THE OTHER WAY AND THE POLICE ARE ACTUALLY CLEANING HOUSE. THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN SO FAR APPEAR TO BE AIMED AT ELIMINATING CORRUPTION RATHER THAN RETURNING TO DUE PROCESS OF LAW IN DEALING WITH SUSPECTED TERRORISTS. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS AN ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT. THIS MSG COORD W/AMEMBASSY.
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